



MULCHING FIELD SECTION 802

802.1 SCOPE. To establish procedures for inspecting and reporting straw, hay, asphalt emulsion, and overspray material intended for use as mulch.

802.2 APPARATUS. All sample containers and equipment used in sampling shall be clean and free of moisture or any foreign material. It is important that the sample should be kept in airtight, moisture-proof containers from the time it is obtained until tests are started. The apparatus shall consist of:

- (a) Canvas bags with plastic liners.
- (b) Rubber bands for securely fastening the top of plastic liners.
- (c) Labeling materials.

802.3 PROCEDURE.

802.3.1 Type 1 mulch is vegetative mulch only. Vegetative mulch is to be cereal straw from stalks of oats, rye, wheat, or barley; or if cereal straw is not available, the foliage (hay) of those plants specified in Specification Sec 802 may be accepted. Straw mulch is to be free of prohibited weed seeds as listed in the Missouri Seed Law and relatively free of other noxious and undesirable seeds. When hay is approved in lieu of straw, the hay is to be of relatively pure stands of plants of the current seasons growth and relatively free of noxious and undesirable seeds and foreign material. Approval of the engineer is required to substitute hay for straw. Vegetative mulch is to be given a visual examination to determine compliance. The inspector must use judgment as to what is "relatively free". Weed stalks in moderate amounts are not detrimental to the end use, but close attention is to be given to the amount of weed seeds present. For Missouri, the prohibited and noxious weed seeds are listed in the Missouri Seed Law, pages 2 and 3, paragraphs 7 and 8. A means of identifying prohibited and noxious weed seeds may be found in "Weeds of the North Central States", University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Circular 718. This circular may be obtained from the local extension agent; however, each district Operations Engineer has previously been provided a copy.

802.3.2 Type 2 mulch is vegetative mulch with an application of emulsified asphalt. The procedures for vegetative mulch are to be as described in paragraph 802.3.1 of this section and the procedures for emulsified asphalt are to be as described in paragraph 802.3.3 of this section.

802.3.3 All emulsified asphalt will be accepted on the basis of supplier certification in accordance with Specification Sec 1015.1.2. Acceptance of truck shipments shall be based on the supplier's certification statement as shown in Specification Sec 1015.1.2.2.

802.3.4 Type 3 mulch is a vegetative mulch with an overspray. The procedures for vegetative mulch are to be described in paragraph 802.3.1 of this section and the procedures for overspray material are to be as described in paragraph 802.3.5 of this section.



802.3.5 The procedures for overspray material are as follows:

(a) The contractor shall furnish a manufacturer's certification certifying that the overspray mulch material complies with Specification Sec 802.2.3. Note: The specification 802.2.3.2 will be modified to require a maximum moisture content of 15 percent and a pH range of 4.3-8.5. Certifications shall be compared to these limits until the new specifications take effect.

(b) A sample of the overspray material shall be taken from each lot. A lot is defined as each truck load or all the material presented at one time, whichever is least. Three bags or bales from each lot shall be selected and material removed from the inner portion of the bag or bale. This material shall be promptly placed in the plastic-lined canvas bag and securely sealed.

(c) The sample is to be shipped to the laboratory in the plastic-lined canvas bag accompanied by the appropriate sample tag, with a matching sample record in SiteManager. The sample shall be accompanied by a copy of the manufacturer's certification.

802.3.6 Type 4 Mulch is a vegetative mulch embedded by a disc type roller. The procedures for Type 4 mulch are to be as described in paragraph 802.3.1 of this Section.

802.4 REPORT. The report is to indicate acceptance, qualified acceptance, or rejection. Appropriate remarks, as described in [General Sec 7.1.2](#) of this Manual, are to be included in the report to clarify conditions of acceptance or rejection. Distribution of reports for materials purchased under a Department purchase order is to be as described in [Field Sec 2001](#) of this Manual.

802.4.1 Vegetative mulch, for Type 1, 2, 3, or 4 mulch, is to be reported as straw or hay using a Free Form Test in SiteManager. The report should contain a statement to the effect that the straw is clean, bright, and relatively free of prohibited materials or that hay is relatively free of prohibited materials. When hay is used, state the type of plant. Quantity shall be shown as tons [Mg]. The subcontractor may be shown as the producer/supplier when the producer/supplier is unlikely to provide additional material to future MoDOT projects (i.e. a farmer). Use report distribution as Class A in [General Sec 7.1.7.1](#).

802.4.2 Emulsified asphalt is to be reported on Form T-741. Distribution is to be per Class A in [General Sec 7.1.7.1](#).

802.4.3 The acceptance report for overspray material will be posted to SiteManager by the Laboratory.

